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25. **Mimus polyglottos.** **MOCKINGBIRD.**—Mr. Arthur Tepper, of Flat-bush, Kings Co., brought to me a specimen of this species for identification, and informed me that it had been shot in his neighborhood, in the early part of November, 1884. He also stated that another one had been shot a short time previously in the same locality. On two other occasions he saw what he was positive were Mockingbirds, both being in the summer. Mr. Giraud says of it: "This unrivalled songster occasionally passes the season of reproduction on Long Island."\*

26. **Thyothorus ludovicianus.** **CAROLINA WREN.**—Since my previous record† another specimen has been brought to my notice by one of my correspondents, Mr. Henry Hicks, of Westbury Station, Queens Co., who now has it in his collection. He secured it the latter part of March, 1886. It was first seen March 22, about an open hovel, and remained about the place until the 25th, when it was shot.

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## SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES FROM THE GULF COAST OF FLORIDA, WITH A DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF MARSH WREN.

BY W. E. D. SCOTT.

**Chen hyperborea nivalis.** **GREATER SNOW GOOSE**—Mr. J. W. Atkins, of Key West, Florida, has kindly forwarded to me a representative of this subspecies taken near Punta Rassa, Florida. There were four individual in the flock from which this specimen was obtained. This is the only record resulting from four years' work on this coast.

**Ardea wardi.** **WARD'S HERON.**—The references to *Ardea herodias* in my recent papers on the 'The Present Condition of some of the Bird Rookeries of the Gulf Coast of Florida' (Auk, Vol. IV, pp. 135, 213, and 273) should probably all be attributed to this species. *Ardea herodias*, so far as I am now aware, does not occur on the Gulf coast of Florida south of the mouth of the Withlacoochee River. In the vicinity of Tarpon Springs, Hillsboro County, Ward's Heron is still a comparatively abundant bird. It breeds in colonies of varying size, not less than three, or more than twenty-five pairs being associated together. The localities chosen for breeding are generally small islands having a considerable growth of trees, and with open expanses of fresh water on all sides. Such islands are frequently to be found in cypress swamps and are apparently the favorite breeding resorts. Mating begins in late December or early January and by the middle or last of the latter month the

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\* Birds of Long Island, p. 82.

† Auk, Vol. III, 1886, p. 442.

eggs are laid. I have taken in this vicinity young ready to fly as early as the 20th of February. Two young are more commonly reared in a brood, though occasionally I have seen three in a nest.

The breeding season is protracted, and seems to vary with localities, as I found young not more than two weeks old late in May near Punta Rassa, which point is about one hundred and fifty miles south of Tarpon Springs. Two broods at least are reared each season.

*Ardea rufescens.* **REDDISH EGRET.**—Though I have demonstrated to my entire satisfaction that this species is identical with the so-called *A. pealei*, the result of the investigations carried on will be briefly recapitulated to enforce and emphasize the facts that substantiate the position taken. The birds are common on the Gulf coast of Florida as far north as Anclote Keys, but at certain points one or the other phase seems to predominate, the species being represented in the southern part of the area almost wholly by white individuals and in the northern part the dark form largely predominates. However, at points in Charlotte Harbor, both phases occur commonly, and here I obtained several specimens in parti-colored plumage, *i. e.*, partly dark colored, mottled or pied with white feathers (see *Auk*, Vol. IV, No 3, p. 215). Mr. George B. Sennett recently kindly allowed me to examine several Reddish Egrets collected by himself on the Texas coast, two of which showed to a marked degree this same parti-colored condition of plumage.

Finally, to go back several years, I quote from the 'Bulletin of the Nuttall Ornithological Club,' Vol. VII, 1881, p. 20:

"At Clearwater and just south of it, and particularly at points on Old Tampa Bay, I found the Reddish Egret (*Ardea rufa*) abundant. While most common in the dark plumage, many were noted and some obtained in the white plumage, the so-called *Ardea pealii*. They began breeding in March and were breeding commonly in April, Mr. Devereux obtaining numerous sets of their eggs, varying from four to six in number. This gentleman found young in both plumages in the same nest where the parents were both blue birds," Mr. Devereux was at this time my assistant and eminently qualified to make correct and careful observations. I had been obliged to leave the point in question before the breeding season began, but had called his special attention to the thorough investigation of the problem, which at that time, the winter of 1879-80, was still an open one to my mind.

*Macrorhamphus scolopaceus.* **LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER.**—Of rather common occurrence near Tarpon Springs in the fall and early winter months, and I have specimens taken near Fort Meyers, on the Caloosahatchie River, in December.

*Tringa maritima.* **PURPLE SANDPIPER.**—A specimen of this species was taken by Mr. J. W. Atkins, at Gordon's Pass, west coast of Florida, in November, 1886. This occurrence greatly extends the known range of this species to the southward, it being of rare occurrence on the Atlantic coast south of Long Island, N. Y. I am indebted to Mr. Atkins for the opportunity of examining and recording this interesting specimen.

*Ereunetes occidentalis.* **WESTERN SANDPIPER.**—Though not so abun-

dant as *E. pusillus*, yet this appears to be a regular visitor every season, arriving early in the fall.

**Sympheeria semipalmata inornata.** WESTERN WILLET.—Both forms of Willet occur in the vicinity of Tarpon Springs, and though I have representatives of *inornata* in full plumage, yet the smaller form is the one breeding commonly about this point, and localities visited on Tampa and Hillsboro Bays. *S. s. inornata*, however, seems to be the commoner form throughout the winter months.

**Columba leucocephala.** WHITE-CROWNED PIGEON.—Through the kindness of Mr. Atkins, of Key West, I am able to record a representative of this species from Punta Rassa. This is a young male of the year, just beginning to assume full plumage. It is No. 3492 of the author's collection, and was taken by Mr. Atkins at the point indicated on August 16, 1886.

I have also before me two immature female birds taken at Key West by Mr. Atkins on October 8 and 9, 1887. The eyes of the female birds are recorded on the labels as *gray* and those of the male as *light orange*. Feet and legs of all, dark red.

Mr. Atkins writes me that the species is quite common at Key West.

The record from Punta Rassa extends the range of this species on the Gulf coast of Florida considerably to the northward—about a hundred and twenty miles—of previous observations.

**Buteo fuliginosus.** LITTLE BLACK HAWK.—On the 15th of December, 1886, A. Lechevallier collected, near Cape Romano, Florida, an adult male bird of this species. This bird was procured from that gentleman by Mr. Atkins and was sent by him to me for identification. Concluding it to be the above species, it was submitted to Mr. J. A. Allen, who agreed with me. This is, so far as I am aware, the second record for the United States.

**Conurus carolinensis.** CAROLINA PAROQUET.—This species, once common in Hillsboro County and in the immediate vicinity of Tarpon Springs, has now apparently disappeared from the region in question, or has at least become very rare. During three seasons' collecting in this region I have not met with it, nor have any specimens been brought to me by any of the many local hunters. The birds are still rather common in parts of Hernando County, but the general opinion of residents seems to be that each year finds them more rare. This does not seem to have come about wholly by persecution, though the birds have been killed in great numbers. The settlement of the country and clearing of land has served to disturb this species very much, as it has *Campetherus principalis*. Both species have absolutely forsaken regions where they were once comparatively common, or even abundant.

**Coccyzus minor.** MANGROVE CUCKOO.—I have before me an individual of this species, taken near Tampa by Mr. Stuart, and the record of another observed on South Anclote Key, May 20, 1887.

The species, though not nearly so common, seems to have a range on the Gulf coast of Florida coextensive with that of *Vireo altiloquus barbatulus*, to which reference will be made further on.

**Campephilus principalis.** **IVORY-BILLED WOODPECKER.**—The following account of the nest and first plumage of this species was made by the writer near Tarpon Springs, on March 17, 1887: "To-day found nest of Ivory-billed Woodpecker, and obtained both parent birds and the single young bird which was the occupant of the nest. The cavity for the nest was dug in a large cypress tree, in the midst of a dense swamp, and was forty-one feet from the ground. The opening was oval in shape, being three and one half inches wide and four and a half inches high. The same cavity had apparently been used before for a nesting place; it was cylindrical in shape and a little more than fourteen inches deep. The young bird in the nest was a female, and though one-third grown had *not yet opened its eyes*. The feathers of the first plumage were apparent, beginning to cover the down, and were the same in coloration as those of the adult female bird."

These birds, I am told by all old residents, were once very common in this region. But they are now comparatively rare and very shy. The same day that the nest was found eleven were counted in the swamp in question, sometimes four or five being in sight at once. The three spoken of were all that were obtained, the adults being the parents of the young female bird.

**Chordeiles virginianus chapmani.** **CHAPMAN'S NIGHTHAWK.**—There are before me both the eggs and one young bird in the down, of this subspecies. The bird was taken, together with the parents, on June 17, 1887, near Tarpon Springs, by Mr. W. S. Dickinson, at that time my assistant. The young bird is apparently five or six days old. The down is dirty white beneath, and on all other parts is the same dirty white mixed with spots of black, giving the bird an appearance above not unlike the young of *Aegialitis wilsonia*, save that the down is longer. The egg is very similar in color and markings to that of *C. virginianus*, and measures 1.20 X .90 inches.

**Icterus spurius.** **ORCHARD ORIOLE.**—A rather common migrant on the west coast of Florida in the vicinity of Tarpon Springs, appearing from the 5th to the 25th of April. The males are in full song, but I have no later record of the species than those given above, and do not think it breeds here.

**Chondestes grammacus.** **LARK SPARROW.**—The records previously given (see Auk, Vol. IV, No. 2, p. 133) are now supplemented by an adult female taken by Mr. J. W. Atkins, at Key West, on October 3, 1887, and a single bird observed at Tarpon Springs by the writer on November 2, 1887. The species is probably a rare regular migrant and winter resident in the southwestern portion of Florida.

**Peucaea aestivalis.** **PINE-WOODS SPARROW.**—Occurs abundantly as a common resident, breeding about Tarpon Springs.

**Peucaea aestivalis bachmanii.** **BACHMAN'S SPARROW.**—Occurs as a rare bird in the breeding season, but not uncommon in early fall and winter about Tarpon Springs.

**Vireo altiloquus barbatulus.** **BLACK-WHISKERED VIREO.**—A common

migrant, and breeds in numbers on all of the mangrove keys of the west coast of Florida, as far north at least as the mouth of the Anclote River.

Mr. Dickinson obtained late in May a series of twelve individuals of this species on the South Anclote River, near Tarpon Springs, which is now in the writer's collection. The birds arrive here about May 10-15, and though Mr. Dickinson was unable to find them breeding, he saw old nests of the preceding year which appeared to have been built by this bird. They probably build early in June, at which time the gentleman in question was unable to continue his investigations.

The species seems to be confined almost exclusively to the mangrove keys, and is very difficult to obtain, even when seemingly plentiful, as they are wary and shy, and the cover to which they resort is dense and impenetrable. I have only two records of their occurrence on the mainland.

**Vireo noveboracensis maynardi.** **KEY WEST VIREO.**—Mr. Atkins has found this form quite abundant at Key West, and has kindly sent me a series of nine specimens and two nests containing eggs. Two of the nine birds were collected at Punta Rassa and are apparently the same as the seven from Key West.

The nests are very like those of the true White-eyed Vireo, and the eggs similar though a little larger.

**Helina swainsonii.** **SWAINSON'S WARBLER.**—Mr. Atkins has collected on the island of Key West only one fall season, and it seems that Swainson's Warbler is not an uncommon migrant at that point. On Sept. 20, 1887, he took three males of this species.

**Helminthophila bachmanii.** **BACHMAN'S WARBLER.**—Before me is the Bachman's Warbler referred to in 'The Auk' for October, 1887, p. 348. It is without doubt an adult female, and is very like the specimens taken near New Orleans, save that the black of the breast is more suffused with yellow.

**Helminthophila peregrina.** **TENNESSEE WARBLER.**—On October 5 Mr. Atkins collected at Key West a male bird, young of the year, of this species, and on the succeeding day a female, also young of the year. I have not found the species on the Gulf coast of Florida.

**Dendroica tigrina.** **CAPE MAY WARBLER.**—Mr. Atkins finds this bird a rather common migrant, both in the spring and fall, at both Punta Rassa and Key West. I have taken it on a single occasion in spring near Tarpon Springs. Mr. Atkins's spring birds taken at Key West were obtained from April 11 till May 5, and in the fall they occur in the first three weeks of October.

**Geothlypis agilis.** **CONNECTICUT WARBLER.**—On May 24, 1887, one of my collectors took, on the South Anclote Key, near Tarpon Springs, an adult female Connecticut Warbler. This bird is No. 3443 of my Florida collection.

**Thryothorus ludovicianus miamensis.** **FLORIDA WREN.**—This sub-species, which the latest authority gives as being restricted to "South-eastern Florida," is the representative of the Carolina Wren found at Tarpon Springs, where, and also southward on the Gulf coast of Florida, it is common.

***Cistothorus marianæ*, sp. nov. MARIAN'S MARSH WREN.**

To an apparently undescribed species of Marsh Wren, lately discovered in the salt water marshes at the mouth of the Anclote River, Hillsboro County, Florida, I propose to give the above name, after my wife, Marian J. Scott.

Before me is a series of fourteen birds on which the species is based, No. 4595, ♂ ad., Tarpon Springs, Fla., 6th January, 1888, and No. 4594, ♀ ad., Tarpon Springs, Fla., 5th January, 1888, being selected as the types of the species.\*

Above olive brown, having in rare cases a slightly rufous tinge. The black area of the back much as in *C. palustris*, but not so clearly defined, and the white streaks in this area not so numerous or pronounced. Rump and upper tail-coverts with *narrow transverse bars of black*, or darker olive brown. The olive of the upper parts usually showing on the top of the head, as a median line, which is sometimes a quarter of an inch wide. On each side of this, darker brown or black, like the patch on the back. A superciliary stripe of white and dark brown feathers. Area in front of eye dark. Below white on belly and throat; flanks and sides olive, lighter than that above, and barred with darker olive or brown. The coloration of the flanks and sides usually spreads over the breast, which in many cases is dotted with small triangular black blotches. Lower tail-coverts ashy or dirty white, *barred broadly* and conspicuously with black or deep olive brown. Tail dark with lighter barring of deep ash, the bars being rarely continuous. Wings dark olive brown with darker markings. Average measurements of males: Length, 4.85; wing, 1.80; tail, 1.70; exposed culmen, .50. The average measurements of the females are appreciably less.

Iris hazel brown; bill above dark seal brown, the lower mandible being lighter at and near its base.

The great difference between this species and *palustris* is in the conspicuous barring of the upper and under tail-coverts and the feathers of the flanks, and olive instead of rufous brown coloring throughout, with the much darker coloration of underparts. I may state that with this series of birds I have taken three *palustris*, which are entirely similar to those of the northern marshes.

The new bird is quite common on all the salt marshes of this immediate vicinity (Tarpon Springs), and probably all along the west coast of Florida as far north as Cedar Keys, where it is known to occur. It is probably resident and breeds, though of this I have as yet no positive knowledge.

The extent of the dark color on the underparts varies considerably, and I have two individuals that show scarcely a trace of whitish beneath, either on throat or belly.

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\* [Mr. Scott has kindly presented these types to the American Museum of Natural History, New York City.—J. A. A.]